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Bolhuis, M.P.

2018

### **document version**

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

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### **citation for published version (APA)**

Bolhuis, M. P. (2018). *Narrowing the impunity gap? How host states deal with alleged perpetrators of serious crimes excluded from international protection: a case study of the Netherlands*. [PhD-Thesis - Research and graduation internal, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam]. <http://dare.ubvu.vu.nl/handle/1871/55705>

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# NARROWING THE IMPUNITY GAP?

How host states deal with alleged perpetrators of serious crimes excluded from international protection: a case study of the Netherlands.

**Maarten Bolhuis**

**NARROWING THE IMPUNITY GAP?**

**Maarten Bolhuis**

States hosting asylum seekers could make a crucial contribution to the aim of narrowing the impunity gap that exists for international crimes, by promoting the criminal prosecution of asylum seekers who are believed to be guilty of such crimes.

To what extent are these states willing to bring people residing on their territory who allegedly have 'blood on their hands' to justice, and what can and do they actually do to promote accountability for these alleged perpetrators?

This PhD thesis is the result of an empirical study of the role that host states in practice play in criminally prosecuting asylum seekers excluded from refugee protection. It is a case study of the Netherlands, a country with a relatively high number of exclusions and strongly committed to ending impunity for international crimes.

Maarten Bolhuis holds degrees in criminology and political science, works as Assistant Professor of criminology at VU University and is a fellow at the Center for International Criminal Justice.